TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Calvin H. Robinson — — Editor and Publisher

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● THE FUTURE OF BERLIN

No major city of the world has a darker future than Berlin. The once mighty capital of a militant Germany, peers out over its rubble upon a prospect so drab and gloomy that enterprise and ambition are crushed ere started.

During the time of the airlift, Berlin assumed a position of great importance. And its people felt prey to an artificial buoyancy. But, now hard facts must be faced.

Berlin does not have access to raw materials it would need to get things manufactured, and it has no way to distribute manufactured goods to competitive world markets. Its currency is a bar to doing business even within Berlin, much less elsewhere. And has no hope of being assured to food and political security. There is little in the picture that would justify expending the vast sums needed to rebuild the bombed portions of the old Berlin.

Frankly, we'd try to get out and to start off a new life elsewhere.

● HARD TO PLEASE

When you don't like anyone, you find nothing to praise in them, regardless of what they do.

President Truman nominated a former Senator from Indiana, and now a federal judge, to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court. Truman's opponents immediately set up the cry that Sherman Minton was not "big enough" for the job.

Truman nominated Carl A. Ilgenfritz to be chairman of the munitions board - one of the biggest jobs in the country. But the Senate defeated the nomination: Ilgenfritz was too big a man for the job; it was best to pick up some "cheaper" man who would be glad to get the small salary offered. The point was that Ilgenfritz was a $70,000 a year man in business, and nobody offered to have the government pay him that much.

If you need a $100,000 a year executive to do a job, it seems to us the best way to get one, is to offer $100,000 salary. It is bad business to expect to get more than you pay for.

● COME ELEVEN

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

The safest age in life is 11, according to the statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., whose findings will come as something of a shock to parents of 11-year-old children.

For the benefit of those who have forgotten, the 11-year-old is that youngster you see hanging by his ankles from a horizontal bar, plunging from a cliff top into the old swimming hole, riding a bike with "Look, Ma, no hands!" in imitation of Tarzan, he swings from the roof of the front porch to the adjacent tree and thence to the garage. He concocts strange, smoking and perhaps explosive mixtures with his chemistry set, and debates the issues of his child's world in a way that brings him home with cuts and abrasions, a black eye or two, and a happy sense of accomplishment.

Such are the circumstances under which 11 manages to be the safest age. The pay of it all, we guess, is that even 11-year-olds grow up to that age at which a fellow always wears his overshoes if it looks like it's going to rain, and wouldn't letter out to more than 9 on a four-lane straightaway— and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. doesn't have to tell us how dangerous an age that it.

● VIRGINIA LEADS THE SOUTHEAST

Virginia has the largest per capita income in the Southeast, and the largest in the entire South, with the exception of Texas, according to figures on 1948 income recently released by the United States Department of Commerce.

Florida was ahead of Virginia in 1947, with a figure of $1,140, as against the Old Dominion's $1,083, but in 1948 Virginia's per capita income jumped 7 per cent, as compared with a 6.9 per cent increase for the nation as a whole, while Florida's dropped 3 per cent. The result is that Virginia's per capita average of $1,159 for 1948 surpasses Florida's $1,137.

Population shifts cause a certain amount of confusion, since six states showed losses in per capita income for 1948, as compared with 1947, whereas only two showed losses in total income. The six were California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Nevada and North Dakota, and the two were North Dakota and Kansas.

It is interesting to note that Virginia made one of the distinctly better showings in both categories. The state was in the next-to-the-top group of states with respect to increase in total income, with an increase of from 9 to 15 per cent (only four were in the group with more than 15 per cent). Virginia's per capita figure, showing a 7 per cent jump, also evidenced one of the better rates of increase, despite the fact that our per capita was relatively high in 1947, being exceeded in the Southeast by none but Florida's. As already noted, Virginia now leads the Southeast in per capita income.—Richmond Times- Dispatch.

● THE MINER'S WELFARE

(From New York Times)

Amid the other uncertainties in the nation's labor and economic picture, a darkening of the prospects for more orderly and adequate production of coal can be viewed by the American public only with the greatest concern. The miners east of the Mississippi have, in a sense, been on strike since June 30. The curtailed work-week ordered by John L. Lewis was in effect a watered down, two- day -weekly strike. It was Mr. Lewis taking over functions of management, for his own purposes.

Now Mr. Lewis' ill-advised excursion into management of mine production, which he took on his own faulty presumption that it would contribute to the welfare of the miners, has had a result quite different from his calculations. If operator failure to remit payments to the Miners' Welfare Fund has created a "tragic crisis" in the affairs of thousands of beneficiaries of the welfare fund, the responsibility rests on Mr. Lewis. He has never been slow to adopt a policy of no contract, no work. No contract, no welfare payments seems to be the fruit that he has reaped from one segment of the industry. If there appears to be a grim justice in this turn of events, as far as Mr. Lewis himself is concerned, it is a result, for the miners and their families, in which no human person can take any satisfaction.

To support the high pay and the pension and other welfare benefits that the miners have won in recent years, industry must have full and steady production from its employees. It has orders to fill. Management must have the right to manage its business. If the miners are "able and willing to work" only a 3-day week, because Mr. Lewis sees in such a policy the way to a better bargaining position for a new contract, they can hardly expect costly welfare benefits to continue on a business-as-usual basis.

Mr. Lewis has curtailed the opportunity for his men to produce. He has, by short-sighted tactics, unduly raised the price of coal and reduced its ready availability to the prospective customer, thus encouraging the use of substitute fuels. It is his own fault if the remittances have begun to fall off. The welfare of the miners will be assured only when management is able to obtain the level of production it needs to fill customer's orders and at a price the customers are willing to pay. A strike now would mean misery, rather than increased benefits, for the miners.

Three-power talks on the atom opened Tuesday.

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(d) Contest closes Oct. 31, 1949. Only one entry per car or truck may be considered. All entries become the property of Ford Motor Company. Contest subject to Federal, State and local regulations and to conditions on entry blank.

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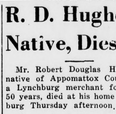

PICTURE: Psalms 23; 42; 46; 84
DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalm 121

The Psalms We Sing

Lesson for September 25, 1949

IT WOULD be a most unusual person who on his dying bed would be content to sing the 23rd chapter of I Chronicles and not to the 23rd Psalm. If a reader will think of his own favorite passage of Scripture, and then ask them up in the edition which puts the Bible in modern format, he will discover that his favorite passages are probably all poetry.

* * *

Poetry's Power

WHAT the appeal of poetry? For one thing, it is vivid. It is in short, not severe black and white. It lives and breathes, at times it sings, and it always sings.

It is true to say "The providential oversight of the Creator is continuous and unremitting;" but it is more effective to say, "The Lord is my shepherd." It would be true to say, "The evildoers of creative and benevolent purpose can be seen throughout all the orders of nature;" but how much more vivid is the 140th Psalm, calling on hail and fire, sun and moon and stars of light, to praise the Lord!

Another secret of poetry's power is that it is the language of emotion. Professors and theologians may be saying the same things as the poet, and maybe even saying them more completely and accurately; but what they say is less likely to remember.

So these emotional Psalms will always appeal, even to the professional when off duty, because they make us feel religion and not merely think it.

* * *

Pictures of God

SO IT IS no wonder the Psalms have been loved and sung all over the world. We are perhaps the only religion that has made so much use of another religion's own book. Different though our faiths may be, Jews and Christians can sing from the Psalter with one voice and heart.

For centuries it was the hymnal of the Christian church. Indeed, up to recent years many large denominations would allow in public worship the singing of no other songs than the Psalms.

Many of our best hymns and popular gospel songs, as we have already seen, are based on Psalms. "Rock of Ages, cleft for me;" "A Mighty Fortress is our God;" "A Shelter in the Time of Storm," "Nearer to Thee," — they all go back to the Psalmist's picture of God as a Rock (Ps. 42:9). The Psalmist was not thinking of a huge rock in a cornfield. He was thinking of some tall crag in the rocky hot landscape of his country.

A rock there is a landmark; it is a shelter against the blazing sun, people could live under its overhanging height.

So God is the landmark of truth, he gives direction to our journey; he is the shelter on life's dreary journey, he is our safe dwelling.

So with the many other pictures of God in the Psalms—he is light, he is shade, he is the guard on duty at night watching over the sleeping city (Ps. 121); he is a shepherd, he is water for the thirsty soul (Ps. 42.)

* * *

The Model Hymnal

IT IS true that few Christians today can use in worship all of the Psalms, without omission or change. It is also true that practically all Christian churches find that the Psalms, by themselves, are inadequate to express all there is in Christian experience, faith and hope.

The Christian hymn, entirely independent of the Psalms, has long since come into its own. And yet the Psalms remain the model hymnal. For in them beauty and truth are blended.

This should be the ideal of all Christian hymn and song books. Some of our modern "hymns" are well as some older ones, are bad because they are no better than jingles, —doggerel, not poetry, and often sung to tunes better suited to a juke box; and some are bad because they convey either nonsense or downright falsehood.

But the great hymns, and the great hymnals, are those which like the Psalms of old, combine profound truths about God and man, sin and destiny, with safety, stirring and singable music, aglow with the beauty and power of words.

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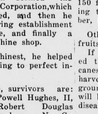
R. D. Hughes, Appomattox Native, Dies in Lynchburg

Mr. Robert Douglas Hughes, a native of Appomattox County, and a Lynchburg merchant for almost 50 years, died at his home in Lynchburg Thursday afternoon.

He was born May 11, 1871, in Appomattox County, son of John Powell and Virginia Nowlin Hughes. His marriage to the former Halshion Patterson, who survives, took place April 21, 1897.

He operated a mercantile business in Oakville before coming to Lynchburg shortly after the turn of the century. He was associated with Adams and Monroe, lumber manufacturers, and then formed the Hughes Nut Lock Corporation, which firm later dissolved, and then he had a truck repairing establishment and an automobile, and finally a hardware and machine shop.

A talented machinest, he helped many persons seeking to perfect inventions.


Dr. Foreman

Besides his wife, survivors are: three sons, John Powell Hughes, II, of Lynchburg; Robert Douglas Hughes, Jr., of Durham, N. C.; George Taylor Hughes, of Lynchburg; three daughters, Mrs. W. A. Harris and Miss Marjorie H. Hughes, of Lynchburg, and Mrs. Julian R. Beckwith of Clifton Forge, and a brother, John P. Hughes, of Lynchburg.

Funeral services were held Friday at 5:30 P. M., from the Diuguid Memorial Chapel, by Dr. Edgar W. Potts. Interment was in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

William and Mary nosed out the University of Houston, 14 to 13, in opening football game.

State death list on highways this year nearing 550 mark.

SPECIALIST GIVES ADVICE ON CAPE OF SMALL FRUITS

Blacksburg, Sept. 21.- September fertilization for Virginia's small fruit plantings has been advised by Bruce Arrollan, associate Extension horticulturalist at V. P. I.

Fruit buds for next year's crop are forming now, he explained, and plant food supplied by the fertilizer is used for bud development as well as for storage in the roots.

Apply regular garden fertilizer, such as 5-10-5, 4-12-4, or 3-8-5, at the rate of 5 to 8 pounds to each 150 feet or row of small fruits during the last two weeks in September, he advises.

Other recommendations for small fruits:

If you have not already removed the raspberry and blackberry canes that bore fruit in the past harvest, prune them close to the ground now and burn them. This will help control various small fruit diseases.

Select your site for next year's small fruit planting. An area on a slope, with good air circulation and soil drainage is desirable. Land that has been either in garden, or some other clean cultivated crop, would be a logical choice for small fruit plantings because weeds and grubs will be less of a problem.

SPITTLE BUG DAMAGES CROPS

An insect called the "Spittle bug" may have been responsible for some damage to red clover and alfalfa hay this year, J. O. Rowell, entomologist at V. P. I., reports.

Rowell says the insects, which form white frothy masses of "spittle" on many crops, have been increasing in number the past few years.

HOLSTEIN SALE IS PLANNED AT ORANGE

Seventy-three registered Holsteins from Virginia's top herds will go on sale September 29, at Orange, R. G. Connelly, dairy husbandman at V. P. I., announces.

Connelly said the offerings will include 61 fresh or springers, 9 open heifers, and three bulls. They are from clean herds tested within 30 days of sale, and some are calfhood vaccinated.

PLANTING STOCK AVAILABLE FOR STATE WOODLANDS

About six million seedlings will be available for reforestation in Virginia during the coming planting season, and farmers are reminded by R. B. Hudgins, County Agent, to make early application for the stock.

Application forms are available in Mr. Hudgins' office, and from district foresters and forest wardens.

The seedlings come from State forest nurseries at Charlottesville and near Williamsburg.

Hudgins said only about 2,000,000 seedlings were available for planting last spring, and that the supply was far short of demand.

Probe is planned into increase in fuel oil prices.

Britain devalues the pound in an effort, to bring on a favarable trade balance.

Stock exchanges open as usual, after devaluation of the pound.

Film comedian, Frank Morgan, is found dead at his home.

Lynchburg and Portsmouth now in Piedmont League final play- off series.

Plenty of free parking space in Appomattox.

Differences between U. S. and Russia prevent starting of work on Japanese peace treaty.

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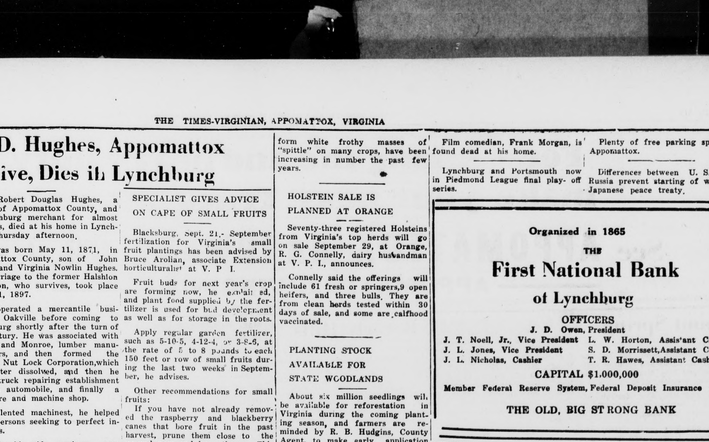

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